REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-12, 15 and 17-20 are pending in this application. Claim 20 is amended by the present amendment. Support for amended Claim 20 can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.[1] No new matter is presented.

In the Final Office Action of June 17, 2008 (herein, the Final Office Action), the specification was objected to; Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101; Claims 1 and 3-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Miyazaki et al. (U.S. Pub. 2003/0212828, herein Miyazaki) in view of Wang et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,415,154, herein Wang); and Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Miyazaki in view of Wang and Togashi et al. (JP 2001-297062, herein Togashi).

Regarding the objection to the specification and the rejection of Claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the indication in the Advisory Action of September 10, 2008 (herein, the Advisory Action) that the above noted objection and rejection are withdrawn in view of Applicants' response filed August 25, 2008.

The Final Office Action rejected Claims 1 and 3-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Miyazaki in view of Wang. In response to this rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claims 1, 15 and 20 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Independent Claim 1, for example, recites a time certification server, comprising:

> ...a temporal change information input section configured to input temporal change information;
> a first code generating section configured to *generate a first code by performing a hash function on the temporal change information*, and output the first code;

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[1] E.g., specification, at least at Fig. 5.

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> a second code generating section configured to *generate a second code by performing a hash function on the received terminal information and the first code*, and output the second code;
> a transmitting section configured to *transmit to the terminal apparatus the second code as a time certification code*...

Independent Claims 15 and 20, while directed to alternative embodiments, recite similar features. Accordingly, the remarks and arguments presented below are applicable to each of independent Claims 1, 15 and 20.

As described in an exemplary embodiment at Figs. 5 and 8 of the specification, the *time certification server* generates a time certification code by first performing a hash function on temporal change information. Then, a second code, which is transmitted as the time certification code, is generated *at the time certification server* by performing a hash function on the received terminal information and the first code (i.e., the hash of the temporal change information). As recited in Claim 1, and as described in the specification, each of the first and second code generating sections and the transmitting sections are part of the same *time certification server*.

Turning to the applied primary reference, Miyazaki describes a time stamp generating system that includes a time distribution server 102 for generating time data depending on time and a user PC 103 for holding time certification objective digital data. The time distribution server 102 generates time data corresponding to a time point and distributes the time data, and the user PC 103 calculates time stamp data by using the time certification objective data as an input, acquires the time data generated by the time distribution server, and processes the time data on the basis of the time stamp generating data to obtain a time stamp.[2]

Miyazaki, however, fails to teach or suggest a *time certification server* that includes "a first code generating section configured to *generate a first code by performing a hash*

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[2] Miyazaki, Abstract.

function on the temporal change information... a second code generating section configured

to *generate a second code by performing a hash function on the received terminal*

information and the first code... [and] a transmitting section configured to transmit to the

terminal apparatus the second code as a time certification code...," as recited in independent

Claim 1.

In rejecting the claimed features directed to the "first code generating section," the

Final Office Action relies on paragraphs [0058]-[0062] of Miyazaki. This cited portion of

Miyazaki describes a time data generating process performed at the time distribution server

102. As described in Fig. 5, the process includes acquiring the present time T, generating a

random number seed and a pseudo random number series, and transmitting the time data to

the user PC 103, which generates a time stamp based on the time data. This process,

however, does not include *"generat[ing] a first code by performing a hash function on the*

temporal change information," as recited in amended independent Claim 1. Instead, the

process merely includes generating a random number based on a current time or a change in

time, and transmitting this random number as a time reference.

In rejecting the claimed features directed to the "second code generating section," the

Final Office Action relies on Fig. 6 and paragraphs [0067]-[0072] of Miyazaki. This cited

portion of Miyazaki, however, describes the process that is performed to generate a time

stamp at the user PC 103, and not the time distribution server 102. As shown in Fig. 6, the

user PC 103 acquires the above noted time data from the time distribution server, calculates a

time stamp position and generates a time stamp.

Therefore, the portions of Miyazaki relied upon to reject the first and second code

generating sections, which are required by Claim 1 to be part of the *time certification server*,

are separately located at each of a time distribution server 102 and a user PC 103. Therefore,

Miyazaki fails to disclose a *time certification server* having both a first and second code

generating sections, which perform the features required by independent Claim 1. Further,

Miyazaki fails to teach or suggest *"generat[ing] a first code by performing a hash function*

on the temporal change information," followed by the second hash function to generate the

second code, as recited in amended independent Claim 1. Thus, Miyazaki fails to teach or

suggest a *time certification server* that includes "a first code generating section configured to

generate a first code by performing a hash function on the temporal change information...

a second code generating section configured to *generate a second code by performing a*

hash function on the received terminal information and the first code... [and] a transmitting

section configured to transmit to the terminal apparatus the second code as a time

certification code...," as recited in independent Claim 1.

Further, p. 5 of the Final Office Action concedes that Miyazaki "does not teach

wherein the terminal information includes position information of the terminal apparatus

obtained by measuring a position of the terminal apparatus." In an attempt to remedy this

deficiency, the Final Office Action relies on Wang and asserts that it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the cited

references to arrive at Applicants' claims. Applicants respectfully traverse this assertion.

The Final Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to "include location

information in the data D transmitted from the terminal apparatus in Miyazaki, since Wang

states at column 1, lines 23-28 that including the location information would help reduce

code shift search time in GPS systems." Thus, this cited portion of Wang merely describes

how it is beneficial to send auxiliary GPS information from a mobile station to a cellular

telephone network, and has nothing to do with using such information to generate a first and

second code to output the second code as a time certification code, as claimed.

Moreover, Miyazaki describes a system in which a user PC 103, which is generally a

stationary apparatus, generates a time stamp locally based on received information and

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transmits the generated time stamp and data D to a time stamp verification server 104 for verification. Thus, <u>Miyazaki</u> does not describe that "reduc[ing] code shift search time in GPS systems" is a goal in his system, whatsoever, as asserted in the Final Office Action.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claims 1, 15 and 20 (and the claims that depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.
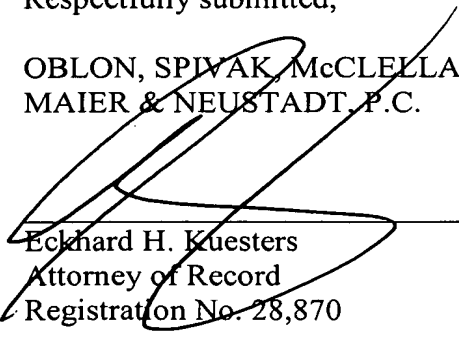
With regard to the rejection of Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over <u>Miyazaki</u> in view of <u>Wang</u> and <u>Togashi</u>, Applicants note that Claim 2 depends from Claim 1 and is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, <u>Togashi</u> fails to remedy the above noted deficiency of <u>Miyazaki</u> and <u>Wang</u>.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-3, 5-12, 15 and 17-20 patentably define over the applied references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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